

U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, Galley/Mess Hall **HABS No. HI-178**
(U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, Marine Barracks Complex)
(Building No. 279)
Russell Way, between Long Way and Neville Way
Pearl Harbor
Honolulu County
Hawaii

HABS
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

**Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California 94107**

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, Galley/Mess Hall
(U.S. Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, Marine Barracks Complex)
(Building No. 279)

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Location: The Marine Barracks Complex is located in the southern portion of the historic Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

The Marine Barracks Complex is bounded on the northeast by Central Avenue, on the north by Avenue E, on the east by Ninth Street, on the southeast by South Avenue, and on the southwest by Seventh Street. Building 279 is on Russell Way, approximately midway between Long Way and Neville Way.

USGS Pearl Harbor Quadrangle, Hawaii
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates
4.607975.2361290 (scale - 1:24,000)

Significance: The U.S. Naval Base at Pearl Harbor was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1964. The first buildings at the Marine Barracks, Pearl Harbor (Officer's Quarters and the Marine Barracks Building-now Puller Hall) were constructed in 1914 as part of the initial permanent post, making this complex the oldest Marine Garrison in Hawaii. The wooden barracks and galley buildings (Buildings 277 to 281, 285 to 287) of the Marine Barracks were constructed as part of the World War II buildup of the base, making the period of significance World War II. The Marine Barracks district is associated with an "event that has made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Hawaii's history" (as part of the oldest Marine garrison and second largest Marine Barracks in Hawaii). Additionally, the structures embody "the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction." Although the structures have received minor alterations, the district's basic integrity has not been impaired. The structures in the Marine Barracks Complex form a distinct and historically significant district, and have played a major role in the operation of the Pearl Harbor Naval Base.

Description: Galley/Mess Hall Buildings 279 and 286 were identical upon completion in 1941. The description of the original buildings will be included in this report, and descriptions for the current condition of the buildings are included in the separate report for each building (Building 279 here and Building 286 in HABS No. HI-182).

Description of Exterior:

- a) Overall Dimensions: The front long section of the T-shaped buildings is 192'-8" long and 39'-6" wide. The rear section is 64 feet long and 39'-6" wide. The former Cook's Dormitory room, which protrudes from the left rear side of the back section, is 16 feet wide and 16'-7" long. The former Boiler Room, which protrudes from the right rear side of the back section, is 12'-6" wide and 21 feet deep. The former Dish Washing Room, located on the right side of the back section at the intersection with the front section, is 15 feet wide and 21 feet long. The buildings are 26 feet high at the top of the roof ridge. The total original floor area was approximately 11,000 square feet.

- b) Foundations: The original foundation is wood post and beam supported on concrete piers. In the early 1950s the entire foundation of Building 279 was rebuilt in concrete.
- c) Walls: All original walls are wood studs with horizontal wood shiplap siding on the exterior face.
- d) Structural system, framing: The buildings are wood framed construction, with wood studs walls. The roof framing consists of heavy timber trusses supporting the ridge beam, with 2x6 rafters in-between the trusses.
- e) Porches: Building 279 has a concrete porch with steps at each exterior door. The front and side entries into the front sections of the buildings each have a small sloped roof over it attached to the wall, constructed of 2x6 joists supported by a triangular wood bracket.
- f) Openings:
 - 1) Doorways and Doors: The front sections of the buildings, formerly the mess hall area, have a double-door at each end of the front section. Building 279 still has the original doors, which are wood panel with four glass lites. The doors have a transom above with six divided lites. At the center front of the front (mess hall) section of each building are two single doors, originally with screen transoms. One of these original doors remains on Building 279, and has four glass lites over a single panel. The other doors in this location have been replaced with flush doors and the screen transoms covered. A double entry door is located at the end of the rear section; these are flush door at both buildings, and transoms are boarded over. A flush double-door was added near the middle of the right side of the galley section on Building 279. All doors have simple wood casing.
 - 2) Windows and ventilation openings: The front section of both buildings have six-over-six double-hung wood windows, originally with screened transoms in groups of two. The front elevation has four pairs of windows on each side of the two single doors located at the center. There is one pair on each side of the double entry doors at the ends of the mess hall area, and three pairs of windows aligning with those on the front elevation at the back side of the mess hall section. The galley section has pairs of double-hung six-over-six wooden windows along both sides, and the former Cook's Dormitory area (rear left side) has three double-hung six-over-six wooden windows and four six-lite hopper windows. All windows have a simple wood casing and sill.
- g) Roof: The roofs are side-gabled and covered with asphalt shingles; the original drawings called for "composition roofing." The rafter ends are exposed at the eaves, and have fascia boards at the gable roof ends and metal gutters and metal downspouts along the other edges of the eave. The gable roofs have wood louvers in the gable wall. Building 279 has round metal vents at the roof ridge.

Description of Interior:

- a) Floor Plans: The buildings have generally retained their original floor plans; most common change is that interior walls have been constructed within the originally open areas.
- b) Flooring: The original flooring is wood T&G in the mess hall area and concrete slab floor at the galley areas. The wood floor and concrete slab remain, but have been covered with a variety of materials, including vinyl composition tile, sheet vinyl, ceramic tile and carpet.
- c) Wall and ceiling finish: The original walls have a horizontal wood wainscot to a height of about 5'-0" with canec finish above and a 6" wood base with a quarter round at the floor. The original ceilings are canec. These original finishes are intact in nearly all areas of both of the buildings. In a few areas some original finishes have been replaced or covered with gypsum board or acoustic tiles. New interior walls are generally finished with gypsum board.
- d) Openings:
 - 1) Doorways and Doors: The two sets of original interior double-doors leading from the mess hall area to the galley were screened doors. At Building 279, the left side doorway has been infilled and one door infilled at the right side doorway. Any remaining original interior doors in the galley area have been replaced with flush hollow-core wood doors. Doors located in new interior partitions are generally also flush hollow-core wood doors.
 - 2) Windows: The interior window trim is simple wood casing.
- e) Mechanical Equipment:
 - 1) Ventilation and Air Conditioning: Originally ventilation was provided by the double hung windows, and screened transoms over the entry doors and the windows. Currently air conditioning units have been placed in many of the windows, and the transoms covered with plywood or glass.
 - 2) Lighting: Ceiling-mounted lights are located in all rooms. The original light were a simple ceiling-mounted fixture with a metal hourglass-shaped base and rounded glass diffuser. Some of the original lights remain, although many have been replaced with more modern light fixtures.
 - 3) Plumbing: Plumbing lines were built to serve the galley portion of each building. The original pluming systems still remain. New restrooms have been installed in both buildings.

History: For additional history of Pearl Harbor and the Marine Barracks Complex, see HABS No. HI-176.

The original plans for Buildings 279 and 286 are dated 1939, with final approval of the drawings by the "Marine Resvn" dated May 1941. The buildings were constructed in 1940-41. A note on the drawings indicates that the plans for the

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single-story galley and mess hall buildings were modifications of P.W.D. San Diego standard drawings. The original designer of the plans is unknown.

The two mess hall and galley buildings, Buildings 279 and 286, were sited with the barracks buildings around the perimeter of the central parade ground and recreational field. The two single-story structures have an inverted-T shaped plan, and were originally approximately 11,000 s.f. As originally constructed, the two galley and mess buildings were identical and each were virtually symmetrical about the central axis. The front section served as the mess hall, and had no interior partitions. This space had a double entry door at each end, two single doors at the front, and two double doors leading into the galley area at the rear. The galley (kitchen) area extended off to the back, and had a separate service entrance. Three small extensions off the kitchen served as the cooks dormitory, dishwashing room, and boiler room.

Alterations include the addition of through-wall air conditioning units, the replacement or elimination of the original windows and doors, new interior finishes such as resilient tile or carpet. Although the interiors have received considerable renovations, the exteriors of both buildings retain their historic integrity.

Sources: See HABS No. HI-176

Historian: Katharine Bouthillier, Spencer Mason Architects, 1994.

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